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Docket No.: 060188-0702 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Akio MISAKA : Confirmation Number: 8679

Application No.: 10/717,598 : Group Art Unit: 1756

Filed: November 21, 2003 : Examiner: Rosasco, Stephen D.

For: PHOTOMASK, PATTERN FORMATION METHOD USING PHOTOMASK AND MASK

DATA CREATION METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Preliminary Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows: